

# BARTON COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

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Mrs. Grant, widow of General Grant, will spend the greater part of Lent in Washington. She will divide her time there between the homes of Senator Stanford and General Beale. —*Topeka Commonwealth.*

The soldiers will, no doubt, remember that in 1884 they were told that if the Democrats got in power, their pensions would be diminished, and perhaps taken from them. Are these the facts? Most assuredly they are not. The commissioner of pensions has now stated requisitions on calls for \$1,780,000 which is intended to make payments upon the pensions due on the first of March, and which will be the largest payment of current pensions made in any one quarter in the history of this government under republican rule. —*Kinsley Graphic.*

One of the guests at the Poland springs, Maine, was young country lawyer with a small practice. A rich old fellow from Philadelphia made his acquaintance at the spring side, and was pleased with him. Now this rich old man wanted an honest man to send to Europe on an important business mission. He thought this young lawyer would fill the bill but proceeded to test him first. After gaining his confidence he told him of a plan he had for making money by a short but very dishonest method. The young man listened attentively and then firmly declined to be a party to any such arrangements. In vain the old man pleaded that scores of men occupying high positions to-day had made their start in precisely such a way. The young man was firm as a rock. The result was that the Philadelphia, being convinced of the young man's integrity, engaged his services, and he is now on his way to Europe. —*Yonk's Companion.*

Mort. Wells has now bloomed out as an inventor, and gives promise of causing a scientific revolution. After spending many sleepless nights in experimenting, he has hit upon a plan by which electricity can be carried along in a buggy, and applied to run away or retractor horses. A small dynamo is concealed under the buggy seat, and operated by the wheels as they revolve, thus generating enough electricity at a nominal expense to make any horse wish that it had never been born. A lever is attached to the side of the buggy convenient to the hand, and if the horse tries to be funny, or do the runaway act, all the driver has to do is to jerk the lever, and the horse will be the sickest looking object on twenty miles of road, with enough cold, raw electricity sailing through its carcass to light the great American desert. When the animal has been thoroughly paralyzed, the driver will reverse the lever, and he will find that he is navigating the most subdued animal in America. Mr. Wells has prepared a model, and applied for a patent. —*Atchison Globe.*

The man who never told a lie certainly had very little magnetism about him and must have had a very stately but an awful dull time of it while he was among the living. That seems to be the impression of people generally in regard to the immortal George. He did a great deal that excites our admiration and gratitude, but he was too proper to love and too good to excite enthusiasm. Human nature warms towards a little badness, yes, even as the sharks fly upwards. It is the bad boy who is popular at school, and men are only grown up boys. It has therefore, been a mistake—a great mistake to paint George Washington so perfect. He would have been idolized if there was only more authentic gossip about him. But he is such stern representative of duty and virtue that the average person cannot warm up to him any more than to a stone. He was born good, grew up good, lived good and died good. There is no place in his career punctuated with laughter. And hence he is not a source of perennial enthusiasm. If he had only been bad—just bad enough to be human—his memory would not inspire so much awe, but he would have had a far better time while he was on this earth, and his birthday, instead of being half holiday, would now receive the jolliest observance of all the marked days in the calendar. It is not comfortable to posterity for a man to be so perfect. He loses half the credit for his good works. —*Baltimore News.*

The President's veto of the bill appropriating \$10,000 for the relief of the sufferers from drought in the western part of Texas will meet the ready approval of all citizens who are whether the Constitution is observed or not. The objections to this petty steal are the same as those which were urged against the bigger steal proposed in the interest of pauperism under the name of dependent soldiers' pensions. It is a measure of charity and nothing else,

and if the principle involved is to be recognized in national legislation absolutely no limit could ever be placed upon the prodigality of Congress. That the farmers in some portions of Texas are in need of assistance is not questioned, but the national government is not the place to go for it.

When farmers who are suffering from the effects of drought can secure help from Congress by application, then anybody who has been unfortunate in business and is in distress may do the same. Great fires, floods, tornadoes, boiler explosions, reaper accidents, coasting casualties, shipwrecks and everything under the sun calculated to arouse the sympathy of the public will be ample excuses for legislation in the interest of the victims. The Washington Government is not a vast charitable institution and was intended as such. The Congressmen who are ever ready to vote away money on applications of this character are stupidly ignorant of the fundamental laws of their country or they are wilfully and outrageously unkind to members. The veto may serve to bring them to a clearer understanding of their duty. —*Chicago Herald.*

EDITOR DEMOCRAT: Your papers and circulars containing so much valuable information to me, was received in due time. Many thanks.

The cheering news that comes to me from Kansas and especially from Barton county fills me with joy. I bless the day I cast my lot in that good county, on that rich soil and among such a good and enterprising people. But may I be pardoned rather than blamed for presuming to venture a word of advice to a people overflowing with enterprise in that noble county? This great mania for railroads and to have as many or more than other counties, might be carried too far, and cause the people to burden themselves too heavily with debt. All can not be accomplished at once, in one year or in one generation. Railroads, towns and county must all build up together, their interest must be mutual.

Those who have to bear the burden of taxation ought to be very careful and draw the brakes before they burden themselves with a debt that may worry and cripple them in years to come.

The call for a meeting of the citizens of Great Bend to devise plans to better advertise your town and county, and advance the interest of both is a move in the right direction. That call and that long list of names for such a laudable purpose is a good advertisement within itself, as it shows to people far away the spirit and enterprise of western people.

Times are very dull in West Virginia, money very scarce and property decreased almost one half in value. Many would sell out and go west if they could dispose of their property at anything like a fair price.

The most plentiful thing we can boast of is rain and mud. We have that in the greatest abundance.

With my kindest regards to my many pleasant acquaintances in Great Bend and Barton county I will close this already too long letter.

Truly Yours,  
M. W. COBURN.  
Red Tree, W. Va. Feb. 22nd 1887.

**The Peace Army of the U. S.**  
The following figures are believed to be approximately accurate, and most interesting and instructive they are:

French army, peace footing ..... 323,323  
German army, peace footing ..... 415,417  
U. S. army of pensioners, peace footing 400,000

One of the great evils of a huge standing army is the cost of its support—a constant drain upon the national resources.

It does not seem that in this respect we have so much the advantage of France or Germany, loaded down as those nations are with military burdens.

The great difference is that all or nearly all of the French and German soldiers, supported at the national expense, are available in case of a unusual emergency, few or none of ours are.

Is this enormous burden a just debt? The question is best answered by another question.

Is it not fair to assume that in 1877, twelve years after the end of the civil war, about all the equitable claims for pensions on account of that war had been put in and allowed?

Yet since 1877, the number of pensioners on our rolls has almost doubled; and the annual cost of maintaining them has nearly trebled. —*N. Y. Sun.*

If the last corn crop of Kansas was divided equally among the population, each man, woman and child would receive not quite a hundred bushels.

## BARGAINS

### REAL ESTATE,

### Those Desiring to CATCH ON! TO THE BOOM

By making some good investments in real estate while property is at low figures should call at

### BUCKLAND'S LAND OFFICE!

Who has a fine list of property, as well as the BEST BARGAINS, of any agency in the city.

### Choice vacant RESIDENCE

### BUSINESS LOTS, ELEGANT SUBURBAN TRACTS!

From one acre up; good residence property and a few good business properties in good locations at

### BIG BARGAINS!

A large amount of property will change hands in this city in the next few months, and big money can be made in judicious investments. Those who buy first can double their money in the next ninety days.

Also farms in Barton, Stafford and Rush counties, on easy terms. Lots in old city limits, lots in Heizer Park addition, lots in College Grove addition, lots in Bonewitz addition.

Lots Sold on Monthly Payments.

**A. J. Buckland,**  
Land and Loan Agent,  
Great Bend, : : Kas.

### WELL DRILLING!

FARMERS AND STOCKMEN

I have one of the most complete well machines ever brought to this country. I am prepared to drill wells any depth required. I will guarantee plenty of good water and a first class job in every respect. Terms for drilling 50 cent per foot, or 75 cent including tubing complete with Galvanized Iron No. 22, 6 inches in diameter, locked and riveted; the best that is made. Plenty of water and satisfaction guaranteed, or no pay required.

Orders left at Henry Wildgen's barn, south side of the square will receive prompt attention.

JOSEPH WILDGEN.

## CHOICE SELECTIONS

### BRILLIANT AUTHORS

**QUEENSWARE!**

"O wad some pow'r the giftie gie us  
To see ourselves as others see us!  
It wad frae many a blunder free us  
And foolish notion;  
What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us  
And ev'n devotion."

There were four crows sat on the ground—  
Carrot colored, brindle, white and brown;  
Said one old crow unto his mate:  
"Keeney is getting away with the baggage of late!"

Said the old white crow, with solemn mien,  
In the most solemn manner ever was seen:  
"Something must be done, or sure as you're born  
We'll have to eat shucks, instead of corn!"

The wise old crow then crooked his jaw  
And slowly scratching his back with his claw,  
Said, "Surely, something has got to be done—  
For Keeney he is a son of a gun!"

Then they all looked as wise as wise could be  
And the wise old crow looked the wisest of three,

As he said in a voice so solemn and low,  
"We'll go out and COMPEL people to buy, you know!"  
Then they all joined in  
A loud refrain—  
For they had, (in their minds,)  
Downed Keeney again.

"There was a man in our town,  
And he was wondrous wise;  
He jumped into a bramble bush  
And scratched out both his eyes."  
MORAL.—Don't be a bramble bush.

"Seest thou a man diligent in business,  
He shall stand before kings, he shall not stand before mean men."

"But, mouse, thou art no thy lane,  
In prying, foresight may be vain;  
The best laid schemes of mice an' men  
Gang aft agley,  
An' lea'e us naught but grief an' pain  
For promis'd joy."

"He who by the plow would thrive  
Himself must either hold or drive."

## J. V. BRINKMAN & CO., BANKERS,

ESTABLISHED IN 1874.  
DOES A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.  
Great Bend, Kansas.

\$500,000 to Loan.  
**AT 7 PER CENT!**

On long time, with the privilege of paying at any time.

ROOM 8 ALLEN-HUBBARD BLOCK: W. M. IRELAND.

**T. GRIFFITH,**  
DEALER IN  
Groceries, Glassware, Queensware etc., etc.

A LARGE STOCK OF PURE GOODS AT LOW PRICES!  
Four Doors South of Opera Block, Great Bend.

**ROBINSON & STERRETT,**  
DEALERS IN  
**STOVES AND TINWARE,**  
Hardware and Implements.

MAKE A SPECIALTY OF  
Tin, Sheet Iron and Copper Ware.  
MAIN STREET, SOUTH OF LELAND HOTEL.

**BRINKMAN BROS. & GWINN,**  
Dealers in Lumber, Sash,  
DOORS AND BLINDS.

Plasterers' Supplies and everything pertaining to house building. A full line of Kaw Valley Paints.

EVERY GALLON WARRANTED.  
Southwest Corner Square, GREAT BEND, KANSAS.

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ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW.  
Rooms 4 and 5 in Allen's Block,  
GREAT BEND - - KAN.

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Headquarters at Allen's Drug Store.  
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Terms Reasonable. Good Sample Rooms.

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Great Bend - - - Kansas.  
**VALLEY HOUSE.**  
Near the Depot. Best accommodations in the city for the money. Transient, \$1.50 per day. Day board per week, \$10.00. A good feed stable attached.  
**N. R. HOLMES,**  
Proprietor.

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Restaurant and Confectionery, day board and lodging. Fine cigars and tobacco, candies, etc., always on hand. All kinds of drinks in their season. Oysters in every style.  
Forest Avenue, first door west of the Post-office.

**SAUL WHEELER,**  
Wagon -:- Maker  
—AND—  
**REPAIRER.**  
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A new and splendid line of goods, which I am selling at the very lowest figures. When you need anything in his line give him a call. First door north of Robinson & Sterrett's hardware store.